



IAP12 Rec'd PCT/PTO 08 JUN 2007

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **SUGIYAMA, Kazuhiko, et al.**Group Art Unit: **3679**Serial No.: **10/506,671**Examiner: **KEE, Fannie C.**Filed: **April 7, 2005**P.T.O. Confirmation No.: **5308**For: **PIPE JOINT****AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL**Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

June 8, 2007

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Amendment in the above-identified application.
The fee has been calculated as shown below:

	CLAIMS AS AMENDED						
	Claims Remaining After Amendment	Highest Number Previously Paid For		Present Extra	Small Entity	Large Entity	Additional Fee
Total Claims	14	20	=		\$ 25	X \$ 50	
Independent Claims	7	3	=	4	X \$100	X \$200	800.00
First Presentation of Multiple Dependent Claims					\$180	\$360	
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED:							800.00

XX Enclosed please find our check in the amount of \$800.00 for the additional claims fee in connection with this amendment.

XX The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,
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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosure: Check in the amount of \$800.00



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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.111

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June 8, 2007

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated **March 8, 2007**, entry of the following amendments and remarks, further examination, and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 2 of this paper and include attached replacement drawing sheets.

Amendments to the Abstract begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 4 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 10 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 21 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including replacement drawing sheets is attached following page 32 of this paper.

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/506,671
Amendment filed June 8, 2007
Reply to OA dated March 8, 2007

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached replacement sheets of drawings include changes to FIGS. 7 and 9. In FIG. 7, reference numeral 44 has been added. In FIG. 9, reference numeral 64 has been added.